

PC-BASED VIRTUAL SET-TOP BOX FOR INTERNET-BASED  
DISTRIBUTION OF VIDEO AND OTHER DATA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

For use in connection with a communication network that  
5 communicates with a plurality of video content servers storing a  
plurality of video files for download to a subscriber, a network  
video player for downloading a first selected one of the plurality  
of video files. The network video player comprises: 1) a browser  
program stored on a computer-readable storage medium capable of  
10 being executed by a processing system comprising a central  
processing unit (CPU) and a memory; and 2) a video download control  
program stored on the computer-readable storage medium capable of  
being executed by the processing system. The browser program and  
the video download control program transmit video outputs and audio  
15 outputs to a television set via a wireless transceiver system  
coupled to the processing system and receive via the wireless  
transceiver system user commands and user data transmitted by a  
viewer control device operated by a viewer of the television set.  
The received user commands and user data are used by the browser  
20 program and the video download control program to browse the  
plurality of video content servers and to download the first  
selected video file.